

PERFIN PRODUCTION AT CHECKPOINT-SLOPER - 1991

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In 1991 a number of members visited the Sloper works in West Hampstead, NW London. In Bulletin 250 I wrote up my impressions of the visit at the time. I also took a couple of pictures of the work being carried out and I thought that these might be of interest to members.



The picture above shows a girl carrying out the perfin operation. There is 12 wide die machine in the foreground (but using 10 wide die since decimalisation) and a single die machine in background, arranged so that the perfin may be placed anywhere on sheet. Machines from West Hampstead Tower Royal Works, possibly

contain parts of Sloper's original machines! The motor and treadle switch are beneath the bench, there is a belt drive and a wooden guard at the back.

The girl has not used the machine for long but note 1) she only uses one guide, at the back of the delivery side, 2) the stamps are folded along the first line of perforation to keep the sheets from slipping apart and 3) the ledger on windowsill. We have some of the earlier ones but would have dearly loved the current one!

In the picture below there is a photo on the windowsill of a Sloper stand at a pre-war trade exhibition, possibly when they produced their "Sloper's History through Five Reigns". Note that there is perforation waste everywhere and that there are old guide lines on the bench.

